

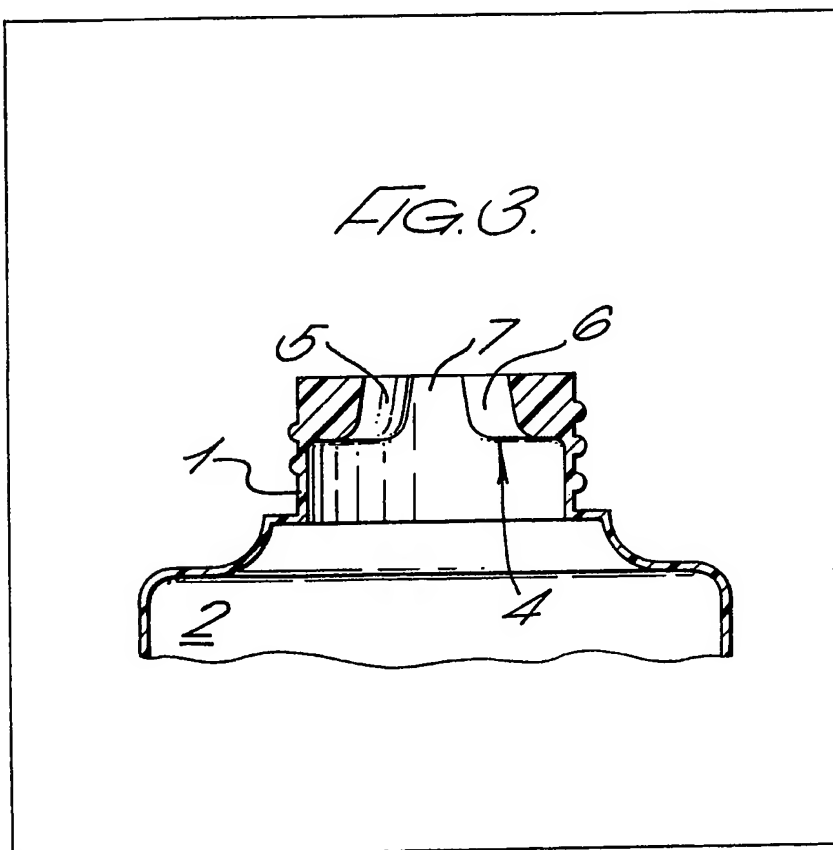
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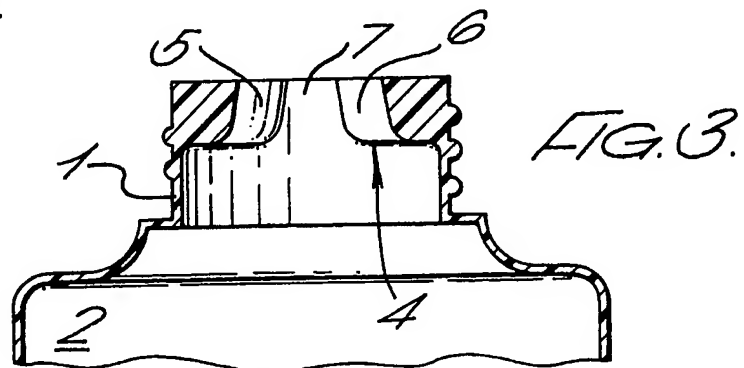
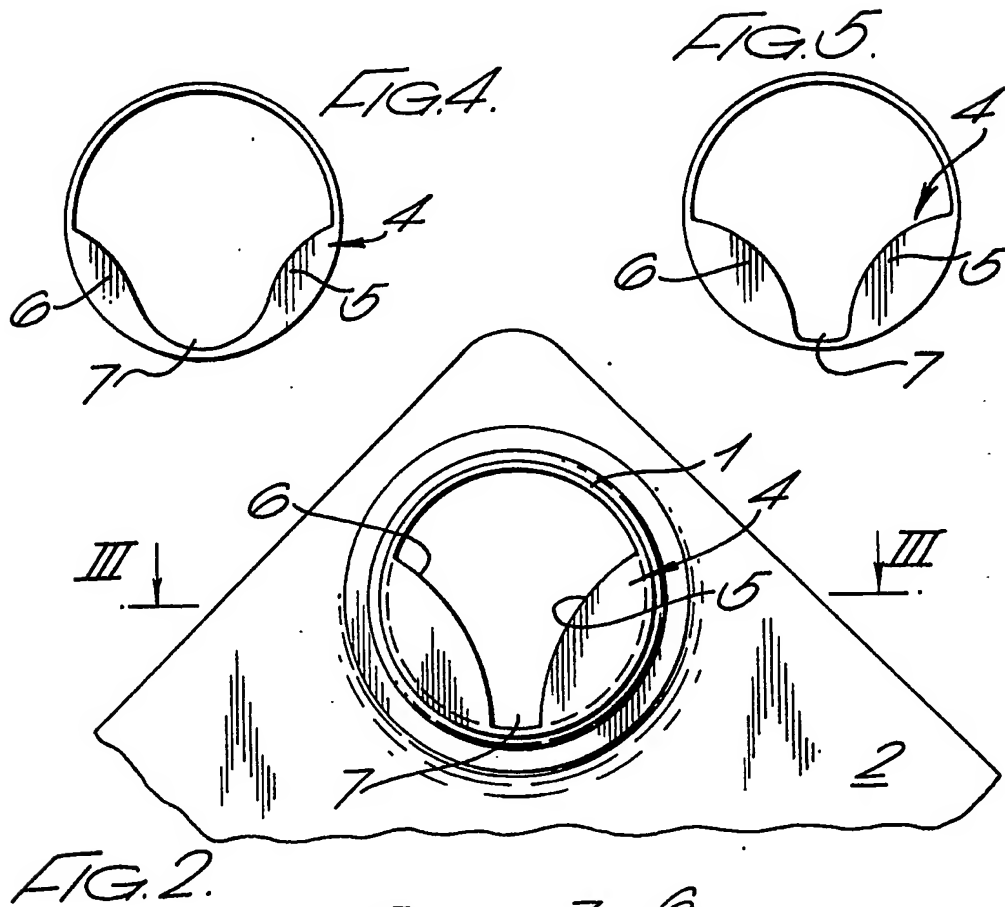
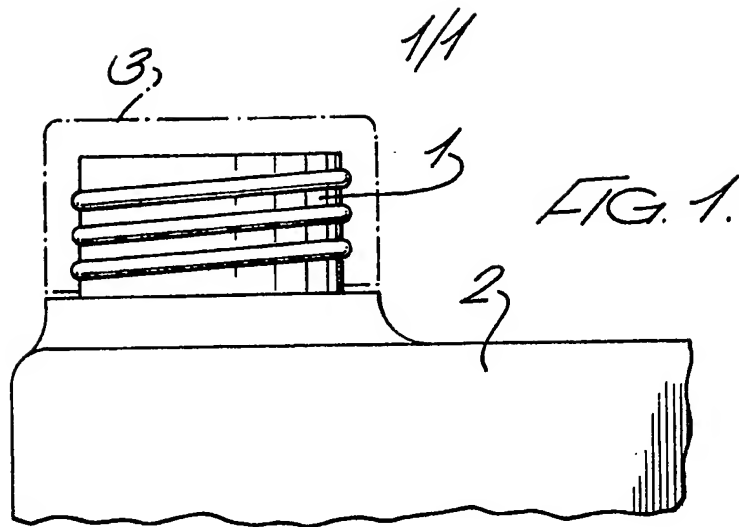
(54) Container spouts

(57) A spout 4 for a container 2 has a circular outer edge to enable it to be disposed inside the container and an inner edge shaped to form a channel 7

through which liquid can flow easily. The channel is formed by two opposed convex sections 5, 6 of the inner edge. The spout 4 may be integral with the container or a removable insert.



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SPECIFICATION

Pouring lip

The present invention relates to a pouring lip for a liquids container.

5 There are a large number of liquids containers such as petrol cans, medicine bottles, household or commercial chemicals containers, etc., which have a cylindrical filling and pouring spout over which fits a screw or push-on cap when not in use. 10 It is frequently necessary to pour liquids from these containers in a controlled manner into a second container such as a petrol tank or a tank for spraying equipment. Many domestic uses also involve careful pouring and liquid medicines need 15 to be poured into spoons or other small measures. In all such circumstances it is difficult to avoid spillage since the cylindrical spout does not give a sufficiently controlled and even flow of liquid from the container.

20 When using expensive liquids such as petrol or agricultural chemicals this almost inevitable spillage wastes money and can even be dangerous if the liquids involved are caustic or give off dangerous vapours when spilt. To avoid this 25 problem it has been proposed to use a funnel or a special pouring lip which fits around the outside of the spout of the container. However, separate funnels or lips are easily mislaid and are liable to get dirty or damaged.

30 According to the present invention there is provided a pouring lip for a liquids container, having a substantially circular outer edge and an inner edge shaped to form a channel through which liquid can easily flow. Preferably the 35 pouring lip is integrally formed on the inside of a cylindrical spout of a liquids container.

This pouring lip having a circular outer edge will not protrude outside the cylindrical spout of a container and so is less liable to damage and is 40 also protected from dirt by the cap of the container. When formed integrally with the container it cannot be mislaid.

Various pouring lips constructed in accordance with the present invention will now be described 45 by way of example and with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a side view of part of a liquids container incorporating a pouring lip according to the present invention;

50 Figure 2 is a top view of the container in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a cross-section taken on line III—III in Figure 2; and

Figures 4 and 5 are diagrammatic views of 55 further embodiments of the invention.

Referring to Figures 1 to 3 of the drawings, a spout 1 of a liquids container 2 is shown, the remainder of the container 2 being of any conventional size or shape. The spout 1 is of 60 generally tubular shape with a screw thread on its outer surface. A cap 3 (shown dotted in Figure 1) is normally screwed onto the spout so as to

prevent spillage of the container contents and to exclude contamination, such as dirt.

65 The spout and container are moulded from a plastics material and integrally moulded into the inside of the spout is a pouring lip 4, having two curved shoulders 5, 6 projecting inwards to form a narrowed channel 7 adjacent the edge of the 70 spout. This channel 7 is so shaped that when the container is tipped up so that liquid inside it passes out of the spout through the channel, the stream of liquid flows smoothly without splashing, dribbling or spreading too much.

75 Since the pouring lip 4 is entirely within the spout 1 it is covered by the cap 3 when not in use and is therefore protected from getting dirty, lost or damaged. There is sufficient free space between the shoulders 5, 6 to allow the container 80 to be easily filled through the spout in the normal manner.

The shape of the shoulders 5, 6 and channel 7 need not be exactly as shown in Figure 2 provided they give a satisfactory flow when pouring the 85 liquid in the container. Two other possible shapes are shown in Figures 4 and 5.

Although the pouring lip has been described as being integral with the material of the container, which can be plastic or any other suitable material 90 such as glass or sheet metal, it can also be made as a removeable insert which may be press fitted into any container having a tubular spout of the correct internal diameter.

Also it is not limited to use with containers 95 having screw caps but can be equally easily used with press-on or clip-on caps.

CLAIMS

1. A pouring lip for a liquids container, having a substantially circular outer edge and an inner edge 100 shaped to form a channel through which liquid can easily flow.

2. A pouring lip according to claim 1, wherein the channel sides are defined by two opposed convex sections of the inner edge symmetrically positioned on either side of a central plane.

105 3. A pouring lip according to claim 2, wherein the channel sides are joined at the base of the channel by a concave section of the inner edge.

4. A pouring lip according to claim 2 or 3, wherein the channel sides are joined at their ends 110 remote from the base of the channel by a concave section of the inner edge concentric with the outer edge.

5. A pouring lip according to any preceding claim, wherein the lip is integrally formed on the 115 inside of a cylindrical spout of a liquids container.

6. A pouring lip according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the outer edge of the pouring lip is shaped to engage the inner surface of a cylindrical spout of a liquids container.

120 7. A pouring lip according to claim 5 or 6, wherein the lip is coverable by a sealing cap applied to the spout of the liquids container.

8. A pouring lip substantially as herein

described with reference to and as illustrated by
Figs. 1 to 3, 4 and 5 of the accompanying drawings.

9. A liquids container incorporating a pouring
lip according to any preceding claim.

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